UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/676,802	09/30/2003	Thomas Chadzelek	09700.0054-00	3771

60668   7590   07/22/2008
SAP / FINNEGAN, HENDERSON LLP
901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413

EXAMINER
AUGUSTINE, NICHOLAS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2179	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/22/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *06 March 2008*.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-37* is/are pending in the application.
      4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-37* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
      Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
      Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
      a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

A.   This action is in response to the following communications: Amendment filed

03/06/2008.

B.   Claims 1 and 3-37 remains pending.

C.   Non-Final Rejection mailed 01/10/2008 is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office

action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   Claims 1 and 3-37 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated

by Bogdan, Jeffery L. (US 6,169,984 B1), herein referred to as "Bogdan".

As for independent claims 1 and 18 Bogdan teaches a computer program product tangibly embodied in

a computer-readable storage medium, the product comprising instructions operable to cause a data

processing apparatus to execute a method for navigating user interface elements on a display screen

(figure 1;col.2, lines 45-57); the interface elements being arranged in order into user interface element

groups having assigned group identifier characters (col.5, lines 58-60); and

the interface elements indicating on the display screen, an element currently having focus to receive user

input(col.6, line 16); the method comprising:

detecting a user navigation input comprising one of forward user navigation input key or a backward user

navigation input key (figure 3, col.6, lines 24-39), the forward user navigation input comprises a forward modifier key press combined with a key press of a first group identifier character, and the backward user navigation input comprises a backward modifier key press combined with a key press of a second group identifier character (col.7, lines 1-8, 19-21 and 27-30);

identifying a selected group of user interface elements associated with the first or second group identifier character (col.7, lines 19-30); and shift shifting input focus to a user interface element in the selected group based on the user navigation input key, wherein, when the user navigation input key is detected processed (col.7, lines 42-44); determining a current that contains the interface element currently having input focus (col.7, lines 42-44), and

determining a target group that corresponds to the group identifier key press (col.6, lines 17-23; figure 3); wherein when the user navigation input key is the forward user navigation input focus is shifted to an interface element next in order in the current group if the current group is the same as the target group, or input focus is shifted to a first use interface element in the target group if the current group is not the same as the target group, and wherein when the user navigation input key is the backward user navigation input key, input focus is shifted to an interface element previous in order in the current group if the current group is the same as the target group, or input focus is shifted to an interface element last in order in the target group if the current group is not the same as the target group (col.6, lines 30-32; col.7, lines 19-45 and col.8, lines 7-10,21-32).

As for dependent claims 3-8,19-22, 32 and 35, Bogdan teaches the product of claim 1 and corresponding method of claim 18, wherein:

- the user interface elements have associated text labels, and wherein the user interface elements associated with the group identifier are user interface elements having an associated text label with a first character that matches the group identifier (figure 3; col.6, lines 13-23).

- a character matches a group identifier if both are the same character regardless of character case (col.7, lines 40-53).

- a character matches a group identifier if both are the same character in the same case (col.5, lines 58-62).

- group the user interface elements into groups based on the first character of the associated text label of the elements at application run time (figure 3; col.6, lines 13-23)

- group only the user interface elements in a current screen of the application into groups based on the first character of the associated text label (col.10, lines 31-33).

- wherein, if there is no current group, the target group is deemed to be different from the current group and input focus is shifted to a first user interface element in the target group (col.6, lines 15-17).

As for independent claims 9 and 23, Bogdan teaches a computer program product tangibly embodied in a computer-readable storage medium the product comprising instructions operable to cause a data processing apparatus to execute a method for navigating user interface elements on a display screen (col.2, lines 45-57); the interface elements being arranged in order into user interface element .groups having assigned group identifier characters (figure 3; col.6, lines 17-23 and col.7, lines 27-39); and the interface elements indicating, on the display screen, an element currently having focus to receive user input (col.7, line 21); the method comprising: detecting a sequence of one or more user navigation inputs key each user navigation input key being comprising one of a forward user navigation input key or a backward user navigation input key (col.8, lines 21-32; col.10, lines 25-33), the forward user navigation input comprises a forward modifier key press combined with a key press of a first group identifier character, and the backward user navigation input comprises a backward modifier key press combined with a key press of a second group identifier character (note the analysis of claim 1 above); generating a navigation string from the sequence of one or more group identifier characters for the one or more user navigation inputs keys (col.5, lines 58-62); and shift shifting input focus to a user interface

element identified by the navigation string (col.7, line 21); wherein, when the user navigation input key is detected pressed determining a current group determining, that contains the interface element currently having input focus, and determining a target group that corresponds to the group identifier key press (col.5, lines 58-62, col.7, lines 1-21; col.10, lines 25-33);wherein when the user navigation input key is the forward user navigation input focus is shifted to an interface element next in order in the current group if the current group is the same as the target group, or input focus is shifted to a first user interface element in the target group if the current group is not the same as the target group, and wherein when the user navigation input key is the backward user navigation input key; input focus is shifted to user an interface element previous in order in the current group if the current group is the same as the target group, or input focus is shifted to an interface element last in order in the target group if the current group is not the same as the target group (note the analysis of claim 1 above).

As for dependent claims 10-12,24-26,33 and 36 Bogdan teaches the product of claim 9 and corresponding method of claim 23, wherein instructions to detect a sequence of one or more navigation key presses comprise instructions to:

- detect a sequence of forward user navigation input presses, the sequence having a first navigation key press and a last navigation key press; initialize the navigation string when the first navigation key press is detected (note claim 9 analysis above); start a time out interval with each forward user navigation input press; and determine the last navigation key press as the key press after which no forward user navigation input presses are detected within the time out interval (figure 6).

- detect a sequence of backward user navigation input presses, the sequence having a first navigation key press and a last navigation key press; initialize the navigation string when the first navigation key press is detected; start a time out interval with each backward user navigation input press (figure 6;col.9, lines 10-40); and determine the last navigation key press as the key press after which no backward user navigation input presses are detected within the time out interval (note the above analysis of forward navigation).

- shift input focus to a next user interface element having a text label starting with the same characters as the characters in the navigation string, if the navigation key is a forward user navigation input; and shift input focus to a previous user interface element having a text label starting with the same characters as the characters in the navigation string, if the navigation key is a backward user navigation input (col.8, lines 21-32 and col.10, lines 25-33).

- wherein, if there is no current group, the target group is deemed to be different from the current group and input focus is shifted to a first user interface element in the target group (col.6, lines 15-17).

As for independent claims 13 and 27, Bogdan teaches computer program product tangibly embodied in a computer-readable storage medium, the product comprising instructions operable to cause a data processing apparatus to execute a method for navigating user interface elements on a display screen;. the interface elements being arranged in order into user interface element groups having assigned group identifier characters (col.5, lines 58-62, col.10, lines 25-33); and

the interface elements indicating, on the display screen, an element currently having focus to receive user input; the method comprising: detect detecting an ensemble of sequential user activation inputs key each user activation input key comprising a character, thereby detecting a sequence of characters, each user activation input key being comprising one of a forward user activation input key or a backward user activation input key (col.8, lines 21-32; col.10, lines 25-33), the forward user activation input comprises a forward activation modifier key press combined with a key press of a first .group identifier character and the backward user activation input comprises a backward activation modifier key press combined with a key press of a second group identifier character key (note the analysis of claim 1 above); identifying a matching activation user interface element by finding an activation user interface element having a label matching the sequence of characters (col.5, lines 58-62); and performing an action associated with the matching activation user interface element; wherein, when the user activation input key is detected pressed (col.7, lines 1-21), : determining a current group that contains the interface element currently having input focus (col.7, line 21), and determining a target group that corresponds to the group identifier

key press(col.7, lines 22-53); wherein when the user activation input key is the forward user activation input key, input focus is shifted to an interface element next in order in the current group if the current group is the same as the target group, or input focus is shifted to a first use interface element in the target group if the current group is not the same as the target group, and wherein when the user activation input key is the backward user activation input focus is shifted to an interface element previous in order in the current group if the current group is the same as the target group, or input focus is shifted to an interface element last in order in the target group if the current group is not the same as the target group (note the analysis of claim 1 and 9 above).

As for dependent claims 14-17, 28-31, 34 and 37, Bogdan teaches the product of claim 13 and corresponding method of claim 27, wherein instructions to detect an ensemble comprise instructions to:

- detect a sequence of one or more characters that uniquely identifies an activation user interface element (col.10, lines 25-33)

- the sequence of one or more characters is a sequence of identical group identifiers (note the analysis of claims 13, 1 and 9).

- detect one or more sequential activation key presses entered by a user within a time threshold (figure 6)

- the pressing and releasing of an activation modifier key delimits the activation key presses in the ensemble (col.8, lines 21-32).

- wherein, if there is no current group, the target group is deemed to be different from the current group and input focus is shifted to a first user interface element in the target group (col.6, lines 15-17).

(Note:) It is noted that any citation to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. In re Heck, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33, 216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (quoting In re Lemelson, 397 F.2d 1006,1009, 158 USPQ 275, 277 (CCPA 1968)).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Augustine whose telephone number is 571-270-1056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday: 7:30- 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nicholas Augustine/
Examiner
Art Unit 2179
July 17, 2008

/Ba Huynh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2179